

REMARKS

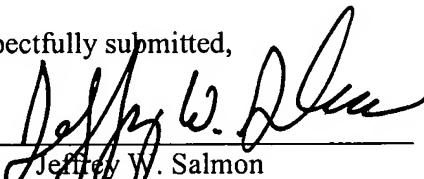
The drawings, specification and claims have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions that are noted in the December 21st Office Action. In view of these amendments, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. A formal notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would help expedite the early issuance of this application as a patent, then he is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at his convenience.

Dated: January 20, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By:



Jeffrey W. Salmon
Registration No. 37,435

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.
120 S. Riverside Plaza, 22nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 655-1500
Facsimile: (312) 655-1501